

## **Teaching Excellence and Achievement (TEA)**

### **Application Deadline is April 15, 2016**

TEA is an intensive non-credit, non-degree six-week professional development program at a U.S. university (January – March 2017 *or* September – November 2017). The Teaching Excellence and Achievement (TEA) Program provides international teachers with unique opportunities to develop expertise in their subject areas, enhance their teaching skills, and increase their knowledge about the United States. TEA consists of a six-week non-degree, non-credit customized academic program including seminars on new teaching methodologies, curriculum development, lesson planning, and instructional technology. Participants will also take part in a practicum in a U.S. secondary school near their host university to work closely with U.S. teachers and teach and present to U.S. students. Cultural enrichment, mentoring, and support will be provided throughout the program. The international participants will travel to the United States in two cohorts of approximately 80 teachers each in the spring or fall 2017.

Upon returning home, TEA program alumni are eligible to apply for small grants for essential teaching materials, follow-on training for other teachers, collaborative projects between schools in their home country and the United States, and other activities that build on their U.S. experience.

#### *What is the profile of the ideal TEA candidate?*

Successful TEA candidates are full-time secondary school teachers with a minimum of five-years teaching experience (not including pre-service practicum years) who demonstrate strong leadership potential and the ability to function well in an intensive and collaborative learning environment with teachers from around the world. Participants should be able to live and work closely with people from a variety of backgrounds and interact in a culturally sensitive way with students (minors) in U.S. secondary schools. Ministry of Education officials, full-time principals or educational administrators, full-time teacher trainers, university faculty, private English Language tutors, and teachers from schools primarily serving expatriates are not eligible.

Applicants who have recently participated in similar programs in the U.S. or other Western countries will be given lower priority. Teachers working in under-resourced communities will be given higher priority. The TEA Program supports educational inclusion and strongly encourages teachers with disabilities to apply.

### **Eligibility Requirements for TEA**

Applicants must:

- Be current secondary-level, full-time teachers with five or more years of classroom experience in disciplines including English or English as a Foreign Language, mathematics, social studies, science, and special education teachers in those subject areas;
- Be citizens of a TEA participating country
- Be proficient in written and spoken English with a minimum paper-based TOEFL score of 450.
- Commit to teaching after completion of the program; and submit a complete application Teaching Excellence & Achievement Program.

*A limited number of Fellows with a TOEFL score between 425 and 450 will be accepted for the program into a special cohort with additional English language training provided.*

### **TEA Program Regulations:**

Fellows must return to their home countries for at least two years upon completion of the TEA program. TEA does not allow for paid employment during the program.

No visa transfers or extensions will be given.  
No visas for dependents (children, spouses)

**TEA Selection Process**

Selection is made through a merit-based open competition.

All applications are first reviewed for technical eligibility.

Top candidates are interviewed by an interview panel and take the TOEFL examination or other comparable examination.

Top nominees' applications and TOEFL scores will be reviewed in Washington, D.C., and, barring any ineligibility, the nominees will be confirmed as finalists.

Below is the link to the online application:

Link: [Teaching Excellence and Achievement \(TEA\) Application](#)

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